

rest in the Coliads, here they may accumulate and even develop and hatch and be living larvæ when laid. Here, however, this is a natural process, not as with the butterflies, a pathological and almost a posthumous one.

It is very different from the case of the beetles I have observed (*Orina*), in which the eggs are fertilised in the ovarian tubes, even before they are of full size, and the resulting larvæ are ready to hatch at about the time they reach the common oviduct. In the butterflies, fertilisation does not occur till the eggs have passed the common oviduct.

Unfortunately we know nothing of the mechanism of the viviparity of the one or two *Tineæ* that are viviparous, so cannot institute any comparison with them.

***Halticus saltator*, Geoffr., an Addition to the List of British Hemiptera-Heteroptera.**

By E. A. BUTLER, B.A., B.Sc., F.E.S.

This species superficially resembles our well-known *Halticus apterus*, but may be easily distinguished from it by the following characteristics:—The colour of the head is rufo-testaceous, with the sharply carinated vertex, the clypeus and the genæ, more or less piceous. The anterior and intermediate femora, as well as the anterior coxæ, are yellow. The hinder part of the pronotum is transversely strigose. In the brachypterous form, which is the only one I have seen as British, the strongly convex hemielytra are longer than in *H. apterus*, and almost entirely cover the abdomen. The insect is scantily clothed with rather long golden pubescence, which is easily abraded. The length is 2½mm.

Two examples of *H. saltator* were taken by Mr. H. Donisthorpe at Deal on September 6, 1907, and are now in the University Museum, Oxford. There is a long series of specimens of both sexes in the British portion of the Hope Collection at the same Museum, but Prof. Poulton informs me that nothing is known as to the locality from which they were obtained. The species is widely distributed on the Continent, where it has been found on *Althaea rosea* (a non-British species of marsh mallow) and on *Echium vulgare*. Kirschbaum records that in the former case it produces by its punctures a deformity of the leaves. I learn from Mr. Donisthorpe that his specimens were taken while he was sweeping *Mercurialis annua*, but of course this does not amount to proof positive that the *Mercurialis* was the food-plant.

Four days at Saas-Fée.

By G. BETHUNE-BAKER, F.L.S., F.Z.S., F.E.S.

The break in the weather produced a marked impression at this altitude, the next day, though bright, being really cold, with the result that only sheltered spots produced anything. *Erebia goante* and *E. euryale*, with a few *E. tyndarus*, were the only species of the genus taken. *Colias phicomone* was the only Pierine seen. *Argynnis aglaia* and *Melitaea athalia* came as solitary examples of their respective genera, though the latter was quite *passé*. The following days proved somewhat warmer, but still by no means up to the average; however,